made-ups during the last three years have been as given below:—

(Value in Rs. crore)

1992-93	1033.6
1993-94	1297.5
1994-95	1504.6

(b) State-wise export figures are not maintained.

(c) India's handloom products are being exported to more than hundred countries of the world. However, Member States of European Union, U.S.A., Japan and Australia are the major importers of India's handloom products.

CBI Raids at International Airport in Hyderabad

2069. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that CBI on 21st July, 1995 conducted a surprise raid at the International Airport in Hyderabad and recovered a large amount of Indian and foreign currency/ goods which the Customs Officials were reportedly extorting from the passengers, as reported in the Times of India of 22nd July, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action Government propose to take against such persons/officials involved in the matter; and

(d) whether similar raids are also proposed to be carried out by CBI at the other International Airport in the country, if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The raid was conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on 20.7.1995. During the raid foreign currencies of various denomination was seized from the possession of officials of Customs Department and one porter working at the airport.

(c) The Government will take appropriate action after the offence report is received from the CBI. As an immediate measure the concerned officials have been debarred from duty at the airport.

(d) As per Government instructions on Programme of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Work issued to all CBI Anti-corruption branches, various airports belonging to the Airports Authority of India are to be kept under surveillance.

Excise duty on soft drink

2070. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the rate of excise duty payable on aerated water (soft drinks);

(b) whether soft drinks are categorised as a consumer product;

(c) what is the rate of excise duty payable on consumer products like ice-creams, sugar confectionary, biscuits, chewing gums, chocolates, fruit pulp based drinks, tea and coffee; and

(d) the reason why soft drinks are not treated on par with consumer products specified in (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Aerated water, falling under heading Nos. 22.01 and 22.02 of the Central Excise Tariff, attracts excise duty @ 40 per cent. ad valorem.

(b) For the purpose of levy of excise duty, goods are not separately categorised as consumer products or otherwise.